Sermon on Mount

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM.

A...The Nature And Constitution Of The Kingdom.

1.In Itself.(vs.2-12). The citizens of the Kingdom--who they are and what they are.

2.In relation to the world.(vs.16--17.).

a.The citizens are the salt of the earth.
b. " " " " light " " world.

B...The Law of the Kingdom(5:17--8:12).

1.General Principles(vv.17--20).

2.Illustrations from the Moral Law(vv.21--48).

a.The crime of Murder as committed in the heart.
b. (1).Angry with a brother---keeps from the Throne of Grace.
(2).Refusal to settle disputes---the throne of Judgment.

b.The crime of Adultery as committed in the heart.
(1).Personal purity must be maintained at any cost.
(2).Purity of the Home must be maintained at any cost.

c.The crime of perjury.
(1).Breaks the 3rd.and the 9th. Commandments.
(2).In the Kingdom "Yea" and "Nay" are sufficient.

d.The sin of Revenge.
Returning good for evil is a principle of the Kingdom.
1.Turning the other cheek.
2.Giving the cloak also.
3.Going two miles instead of one.
4.Giving,and turning not away.

e.The crime of selfishness.
1.The Jew's "neighbor" and Christ's "neighbor".
2.Enemies are to be loved;persecutors to be prayed for.

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YE THEREFORE SHALL BE PERFECT,AS YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER IS PERFECT.

B...The Law of the Kingdom.

III. Illustrations from Religious Duty (6:1-18).

The ruling principle is the same as in the case of the moral law. "Take heed that ye do not your righteousness before men to be seen of them." The hidden motive and not the outward act forms the basis of judgment.

1. Almsgiving.
   a..No longer distinctively religious or moral, but philanthropic.
   b..The man who blows his own horn "has his reward".

2. Prayer
   a..Affected and holy-toned praying inpublic is condemned.
   b..The danger today is that we are apt to hide our devotion for shame thanthat we parade it for self-glorification.
   c..The model prayer----as to form and substance.

3. Fasting.
   a.Without a corresponding humbling of heart it is vain.
   b.should be done as before God and not as before men.

IV. Duty in relation to the World and the things of it(6:19-7:12).

1. Concerning the good things of the world. (6:19-24).
   a..Against seeking the good things of the world too earnestly. The Scylla of Greed.
   b..Against anxiety about the things of the world(25-34). The Charybdis of Care.

2. Concerning the evil in the world.(7:1-6).
   The whole Gospel of the Kingdom deals with evil, but these particular verses treat of the citizen's attitude towards the evil which he sees in other people.
   a, Against making too much of it (1-5).
   b. Against making too little of it(6).

C...Invitation to Enter the Kingdom(7:13-29).

I. Entrance assured to those who ask, seek, and knock(vs.7-12).

1. Every earnest seeker finds the way open for him.(7-8).

2. God can be trusted to do His part(vs.9-11).

II. Directions and Warnings(vs.15-27).

1.The Two Ways leading into Eternity.(13-14).

2.Warnings to those going the Narrow Way(15-23).

a. Against false prophets, and false claimers(15-23).

b. Against mistakingmerely listening to the Word for actual conformity thereunto.

THE COPPER OF THE KINGDOM

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